

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church
North Tonawanda, NY
August 11th, 2024**



AS WE GATHER

Many grumbled when Jesus said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35). Perhaps we grumble as well. We are always looking for God to meet our expectations and to answer our needs as we see best. But we meet the Lord where He reveals Himself—from a manger that cradles the Son of God in flesh and blood to a cross on which the King dies to free His people from their sin, down to bread that promises His flesh and a cup, His blood. Where we will meet Him on the ground of faith, He will not leave us wanting. He will bestow upon us far more than we ask or dare to desire—the communion of His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and as pledge of the eternal life to come. What a blessed mystery is given to us by faith.

Welcome to all our Members, Guests, and Visitors today, if you're a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor after service in the Narthex. We here at St. Matthew pray that you enjoy your time worshiping with us today.

PREPERATION

TLH * 10 This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints;
**those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. Blessed is the man who
takes refuge in Him!**

Silence for self-examination

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
**I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to
you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and
deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault;
wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my
sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and given to us
His only Son to suffer and die for our salvation. As a called and ordained
servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in
the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

He who began this good work in you will bring it to completion on the day
of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Introit

You open your hand;
you satisfy the desire of every living thing.
Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in him!
Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!
The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high.

and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, Your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

.Amen.

First, Old Testament 1 Kings 19:1–8

¹Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying,

“So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.”³ Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.⁴ But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.”⁵ And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, “Arise and eat.”⁶ And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again.⁷ And the angel of the LORD came again a second time and touched him and said, “Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you.”⁸ And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Ephesians 4:17—5:2

¹⁷This I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ!—²¹assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he

may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³²Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

⁴¹So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” ⁴³Jesus answered them, “Do not grumble among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— ⁴⁶not that anyone has seen the Father except

he who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

TLH * 436 The Lords My Shepard, I’ll Not Want Sermon

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

O gracious God, You gave Your Son to be the living bread given for the life of the world. How can we not trust in Your divine providence to provide all things for those whom He has made Your own children. Blessed Lord, once

our fathers ate manna in the wilderness and died. Give us heaven's bread that by our communion of the body and blood of Jesus we may live forever. Nourish us upon Christ, our Lord, that we may be sustained in faith and delivered at last into Your presence on high forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious Redeemer, Your compassion reigns over all our trouble. Grant us grace that we show forth Your care to those in need and sustain all who are afflicted, [*especially* . . .]. Keep them through the day of their trouble until at last You deliver them into Your perfect peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Mighty Lord, You manifest Your power over all things through the leaders in this and every land. By Your grace, make all those who serve us in government wise, just, and honest, and guide them toward the common good that we may serve You without fear. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gentle Savior, You came not to condemn but to heal and save. Grant to us hearts of mercy that we may forgive as we have been forgiven, and by our acts of mercy display Your great compassion. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Good Shepherd, raise up good and faithful shepherds for Your people that the church may be blessed with passionate preaching and faithful teaching. Bless those presiding in Synod; Rev. John Pingel, our district president; and Pastor Blaine Jorg, our pastor. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, give guidance and counsel to those unemployed and underemployed, that they may be equipped to supply the bread of the day to their families and share with the hungry from their abundance. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Blessed Father, in our wounds, You are wounded. Be with those who suffer any burden of the body or mind, and deliver them from all their sufferings according to Your mercy, Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, You have not withheld from us anything needful for this body and life. Help us now to trust in You for answer to our prayers, and give to us such confidence in Your fatherly wisdom that we may be content and at peace with Your answer; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven; give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass
against us; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the
power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

PAX DOMINI

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Benedicamus

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

TLH * 660 I'm But a Stranger Here